

# EDEDECOR

NOVEMBER 2018



**David Hicks in Northern Ireland**

**Beverly Hills Hideaway**

**Million Dollar Kitchens**

**Living the Dream Ranches! Penthouses! Castles!**

**RALPH LAUREN FOREVER**

**50 YEARS OF LEGENDARY STYLE**



# BULLDOZER

**Mo'  
Money,  
Mosaics**  
The most  
modern  
of ancient  
luxuries  
is back.

## NEW RAVENNA

With a 24-karat-gold background, 15 colors of jewel glass used to create the birds and cherry blossoms, and four grout colors, *Egrets* highlights the complexity and beauty achieved in a custom mosaic.





complete when it arrives. It can be ruined by installers that haven't worked with custom mosaics before and ignore the labeled installation diagram or use the wrong grout color (white is absolutely *not* universal). And this snafu is not fixable—it only comes down with a hammer, in pieces. One company, Artaic, is pushing back against tradition by using computers and robots to create their mosaics at a fraction of the time and cost. Purists balk at the idea, but it does represent mass customization, a growing trend in the world of consumer access to personalized goods. Really, the choice is yours. Whatever you want, rest assured you'll leave your mark for generations to come—whether they agree with your taste or not. ■

**V**ANITY, THY NAME IS MOSAIC. After thousands of years, the intricacy it takes to reproduce, say, the destruction of Pompeii with millions of tiny pieces is still captivating us.

But this art form is not for the faint of heart—or the empty of pocket. Companies like Bisazza, Sicis, and New Ravenna still painstakingly handpick and assemble every three-eighths-inch piece of glass, stone, mother-of-pearl, or 24-karat gold to depict whatever you can dream up. For example, a client in the south of France fell in love with an Emilio Pucci print and commissioned Bisazza to clad his swimming pool in that pattern. New Ravenna created a Neptune mural with three stallions roaring out of a wave, for which they charge up to \$2,000 per square foot. And who needs a wall? One of Sicis's clients had his Tata Nano car outfitted with Indian street scenes reflecting the chaos, sounds, and colors of the country.

Not every mosaic is this expensive or fantastical, of course. Depending on the makeup, they can run as low as \$100 per square foot or less, but for the avid lover of this ancient art form, the cost and time it takes to receive your special delivery—four to six weeks on average—is well worth every penny. The only problem: A customized mosaic is just half

#### ▲ SICIS

Paying homage to the famous 16th-century Italian painter Arcimboldo and his flower portraits, this mosaic features colorful tesserae reflecting the light and quality of the original oils.

**TOP RIGHT:** Hand-cutting the mosaic for *Egrets*.



#### ▲ ARTAIC

An uploaded family-vacation photo became the backsplash for a kitchen in Boston.

#### ▲ BISAZZA

A private spa in Barcelona is wrapped in a Swarovski-crystal skull-and-crowns glass mosaic.